

HOME NEWS

Mixed reaction to plea for Mr Steel to lead coalition of moderates

From Fred Emery
Political Editor

that has got him into trouble in his party.

Initial reactions were provoked by the advance release of Professor Marquand's intended remarks to a fringe meeting. The issue of a coalition or a centre party is not on the assembly agenda, although it is likely to be mentioned in a debate on party philosophy on Friday.

In his statement Professor Marquand said: "The 16 months since the last election have shown beyond doubt that the future of the British left depends on good relations and mutual understanding between Liberals and social democrats.

"The natural leaders of this party are David Steel, Roy Jenkins, Shirley Williams, Bill Rodgers and David Owen. They have the same fundamental values and the same approach to Britain's deepening crisis."

Mr Cyril Smith, the Liberal MP for Rochdale, who was former minister of state responsible for broadcasting policy and friend of Mr Cadbury for many years, is leading the opposition to him. It was Mr Cadbury who invited Lord Harris to join Westward as part of a move to strengthen the board in the run-up to seeking a franchise renewal.

"I do not see me as being part of a party which exists for the purpose of housing Labour dissidents, with David Steel thrown in as a superficial attraction," he said.

Mr Alan Beith, MP for Berwick-upon-Tweed and Liberal Chief Whip in the Commons, was more circumspect.

He agreed with Mr Michael Meadowcroft, the assembly chairman, that inter-party arrangements must follow elections, not precede them.

Liberal MPs are united on Nato

From George Clark
Political Correspondent

Blackpool

Liberal MPs will be united at the Liberal Party annual conference in their opposition to a move to commit the party to a policy of unilateral nuclear disarmament and withdrawal from Nato.

Mr Alan Beith, MP for Berwick-upon-Tweed, Liberal Chief Whip, announced the united front yesterday after a meeting called by Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, to discuss the strategy of MPs towards conference resolutions.

The conference opens today. It appears that Mr Steel received an assurance that they will all appeal to the confer-

ence delegates to vote for the second of two options that will be presented to the conference tomorrow.

The resolution will condemn military aggression but state that the best guarantee of world security is "one general and complete disarmament under effective international control". It also reaffirms the Liberal Party's continued support for Nato as the best immediate means of protecting the democracies of Europe.

The party will be asked to support, subject to any arms limitations agreements, the deployment by Nato of the latest tactical nuclear weapons and be asked to urge the European allies to bear their fair share of the cost of defending Europe.

Last night Mr John Leeson, the Young Liberals' spokesman, forecast that the MPs would be defeated. He said there had been a significant swing in rank and file opinion against the continued deployment of nuclear weapons since the party last voted on the issue.

Mr Steel and his colleagues believe they will win over a majority in favour of continuing the present membership of Nato, but it may be a close vote.

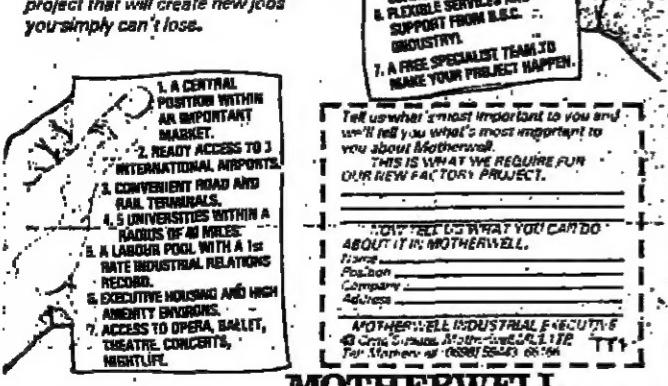
A move by the Young Liberals to take away from the party leader the right to have the final say in the compilation of the party manifesto was defeated yesterday.

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Dispute centres on whether ex-chairman's actions may endanger franchise renewal

Agreement delays decision on future of deposed TV chief

By Philip Robinson

Mr Peter Cadbury, the deposed chairman of Westward Television, who has in the past used a lion and an elephant in attempts to gain publicity, now seems to have a tiger by the tail.

After reaching an agreement yesterday with the Westward board, Mr Cadbury, a former television executive, now waits until mid-October to see if he can continue to take part in the running of a television station for which he has worked almost obsessively for the past 20 years.

Although Mr Cadbury has agreed not to challenge the board until an extraordinary meeting on October 17 in Plymouth, and to stay out of the management of the station until then, the issue facing him in October will be ostensibly the same: whether his resuming the chairmanship will endanger the company's franchise, which is due for renewal in December.

The natural leaders of this party are David Steel, Roy Jenkins, Shirley Williams, Bill Rodgers and David Owen. They have the same fundamental values and the same approach to Britain's deepening crisis.

Lord Harris of Greenwich, the previous chairman of Westward, died in 1977-78. Liberal MP Cyril Smith, who was minister of state responsible for broadcasting policy and friend of Mr Cadbury for many years, is leading the opposition to him. It was Mr Cadbury who invited Lord Harris to join Westward as part of a move to strengthen the board in the run-up to seeking a franchise renewal.

He maintains in particular that Mr Cadbury's involvement in his personal affairs with those of the company made it an almost foregone conclusion that the company would not obtain a renewal of its franchise from the Independent Broadcasting Authority with Mr Cadbury continuing as chairman and head of the company.

Lord Harris maintains that in a press release issued on Westward notepaper, Mr Cadbury has complained of police persecution and criticized the Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall.

After more than a month of public debate, an action in the High Court last week



Mr Peter Cadbury: Board challenge delayed.

brought the reasons for the break-up into focus.

In a sworn affidavit Lord Harris says that the issue arose because the board considered Mr Cadbury was no longer conducting himself publicly in manner appropriate to that of a chairman of a listed public company.

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Lord Harris maintains that in a press release issued on Westward notepaper, Mr Cadbury has complained of police persecution and criticized the Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall.

Mr Cadbury is due to appear at Barnstaple magistrates' court



Lord Harris: Weekend peace moves.

on October 6 charged with wasting police time.

He had also written a letter earlier this year to the managing director of the company requesting that a television interview with the chief constable be used for his own purposes and had issued instructions to the editor of the company's magazine to be advised before any appearance of the chief constable in any programme of the company.

"This manifestly was an abuse of his position and a serious infringement of editorial impartiality in the news media and was a repeat of previous attempt by Mr Cadbury to influence programme content," Lord Harris said.

However, Mr Cadbury maintains in his affidavit that in the past 20 years he has not been involved with the content of the news coverage programmes "save on this and one other occasion".

At the end of July Mr Cadbury began fighting to resume his seat on the board. Having secured support of the majority of voting shares (he claims to speak for 55 per cent), he lodged with the board a requisition of special notice seeking an extraordinary meeting of shareholders. He intended to vote Lord Harris and five other directors off the board and subsequently reinstate himself as chairman and Lord Libesman as his deputy.

The board said the meeting could be held on October 17. But that would have meant Lord Harris would represent Westward at a public meeting on September 23 at which they and the two rival consortia bidding for the television franchise for the South-west of England would unveil programme plans and answer questions.

He said that to suggest he was seeking to prevent the proper presentation of the news was unfounded.

Mr Cadbury said that he had intended to let the board see the press release which related to his reasons for selling his £2m Lyncombe estate in Devon and moving elsewhere, but it was sent out in error.

So Mr Cadbury rescheduled an earlier meeting due to be held at the Carlton Tower Hotel in London at 1.30 pm today. Lord Harris said the board had not received the meeting. Mr Cadbury issued a writ asking the High Court to decide which meeting should be valid. Lord Harris laid down a notice of motion asking the High Court to prevent the meeting.

Mr Justice Dillon last week allowed the meeting to take place, but said that if the two parties could not work together, a receiver and manager would have to be put in to run Westward until the long-term composition of the board was resolved.

Neither party wants an outside manager because they feel it would probably mean the end of the franchise. Those at the weekend moves were made behind the scenes by Lord Harris.

As a result, on Monday, when Lord Harris, his merchant bankers Hamsons, and solicitors Coward Chance, were due to decide whether to lodge an appeal against the High Court decision and whether to seek injunction to prevent today's meeting pending an appeal, they were talking with Mr Cadbury's solicitors, Forsyth Keenan.

After a day-and-a-half of talks, Mr Cadbury said he will proceed with today's meeting, but will not act on any resolutions passed until October 17. Lord Harris was said to have been horrified by what they were talking about.

"We have achieved enormous development here as far reactor safety and general safety," he said. "The BSC is concerned that the film we showed some of the myth and show the extent now our knowledge."

Mr Blumfield understood that further revelations would be made in a major newspaper today about contamination discovered in buses used to transport Drax workers from the site.

"The extent of this was fact equivalent to the radiation myth the folk lore that developed over the years, soon became obvious to me," he said.

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Mr Pollard said there was no point in resurrecting the idea of Consett as a back-up to Redcar. The unions had presented iron-severance pay talks.

Yesterday the BSC announced that severance payments would be paid in two stages, half now and the rest in September 1981.

Agreement with the unions was reached after eight hours of talks.

Consett pay-out to average £5,000

By Ronald Kershaw
Northern Industrial Correspondent

BR ponders options in hotel sales

By Michael Baily
Transport Correspondent

British Rail is considering the sale of its 29 famous hotels, including Charing Cross hotel in London, Glenagael in Scotland, Mr Michael Bosworth, deputy chairman of BR and chairman of the hotels subsidiary, said last night.

But he described as "premature" reports that the hotels might all be sold to Arab interests for an estimated £60m. "We have not yet reached the point of preparing a prospectus or even making a valuation," he said.

Mr Bosworth emphasized that sale of all the hotels together was not what British Rail wanted, and that if it happened it would be force majeure in the face of the board's rapidly growing deficit, expected to reach £50m to £80m this year, rather than the earlier plan for selling the hotels subsidiary to private interests.

The plans called for a flexible policy of partnerships with private sector hotel groups and financial institutions.

Against the prospect of British Rail's substantially exceeding its cash limits, however, asset disposal was an option, with higher productivity and curtailment of the main railway activities.

In choosing between disposal of straight property assets with their possibility of remunerative rent reviews in future years (in fact, property sales are being doubled from about £14m last year to £30m in 1980) and hotel disposals with more staff involved, the board had to consider what would best serve the railways' long-term future.

The National Union of Railmen threatened earlier this year to blockade the hotels if BR tried to sell them off. They include the Great Western, in Paddington, the Great Eastern, in Victoria, the Welcome in Stratford-on-Avon, and the North British in Edinburgh.

Swan Hunter confirmed that the final £10m payment for the vessel was made on April 25.

The Kharg's crew have been standing by on Tyneside for months but they are expected to return to Iran tomorrow. An Iranian Embassy spokesman said yesterday: "We are not sure how long they will have to stay here, so they are going home. When the time comes, they will come back."

He confirmed that court action was being considered. "Our solicitor is working on this," he said.

But the Foreign Office said they had no information on any possible legal action.

Iran threatens to sue over embargoed vessel

By Our Political Reporter

The Iranian Government may go to law to obtain possession of its £40m naval supply ship, the Kharg.

The 20,000-ton vessel has not been granted an export licence to allow it to leave the Swan Hunter yard at Wallsend on the Tyne, where it was built.

That is in line with the European Foreign Ministers' agreement to suspend sales of military equipment to Iran.

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Tory economic policy in tatters, MP says

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

The Labour Party's dissident Social Democratic Alliance made clear last night that it intended to field rival candidates against the party in the next general election unless there was a swing back to what it called "the moderate wing".

Since the only justification for the present misery of more than two million unemployed and a 17 per cent minimum wage rate was the sanctity of the Government's monetary targets, it was now impossible for the Government to justify that approach as the monetary targets had disintegrated.

Labour's organization committee has warned alliance members, planning to stand against party candidates, that they will be expelled if they do not change their mind within a month.

The committee's decision has yet to be ratified by the full national executive.

Dr Stephen Bassler, chairman

of the alliance, said there to be a clear indication at recent party conference that "left-wing" stronghold

was broken.

The proposal for submission for reselection of all 160 MPs by the constituency party before election must be rejected, and the party must adopt a unilateralist policy defence.

Most Labour politicians and trade union leaders believe the reselection system will be approved, but think it unlikely that the party will return to unilateralist position.

Dr Bassler said that members of the alliance that the Labour Party was "in

Labour dissidents scorn threat of expulsion

By Michael Hatfield
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Dounreay
irector
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Panoram

HOME NEWS

Civil Service morale under strain in face of criticisms and cuts

By Peter Hennessy

Serious concern has been expressed privately by senior officials in Whitehall that in the Civil Service, particularly in its middle and lower ranks, is facing the strong possibility of severe collapse in morale and effectiveness.

Among factors mentioned as contributory causes are public and parliamentary criticism, manpower cuts, planned changes in the system of pay and pensions, and a slowdown in promotion prospects. A particularly potent element in the drain of self-esteem is judged to be the antipathy displayed by some ministers towards civil servants as a breed.

The unfavourable attitude of the Prime Minister, although she has not been mentioned by name even in the most confidential of internal Whitehall correspondence, towards the work of a large proportion of the public service is seen by many civil servants as one of the main stimulants of the malaise.

Some permanent secretaries believe that what they regard as the Cabinet's commendable efforts to streamline the central government machine by making it more efficient and economy-minded could be jeopardized by avoidable resentment on the part of civil servants who have come to feel that ministers regard them as objects of little value, delaying the country's economic recovery through the resources they consume.

Feelings shared by many in the senior ranks of the Civil Service have been expressed by Sir Frank Cooper, Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, Whitehall's largest employer and biggest spender, in a private letter to Sir Derek Rayner. The latter is the joint managing director of Marks and Spencer and the Prime Minister's adviser on the elimination of government waste, who has been leading the drive for improved efficiency.

In his letter to Sir Derek, which is part of a continuing correspondence, Sir Frank proposes two possible remedies for the malaise. First, ministers should stress the work of their officials publicly where practical.

Secondly, both performance by individual civil servants and those undertaking especially demanding tasks should be recognized by a system of special payments within the hierarchy of career grades and increments. The possibility of introducing such a system is being examined.

Unions unite for battle over wage restraint

By Paul Roulledge

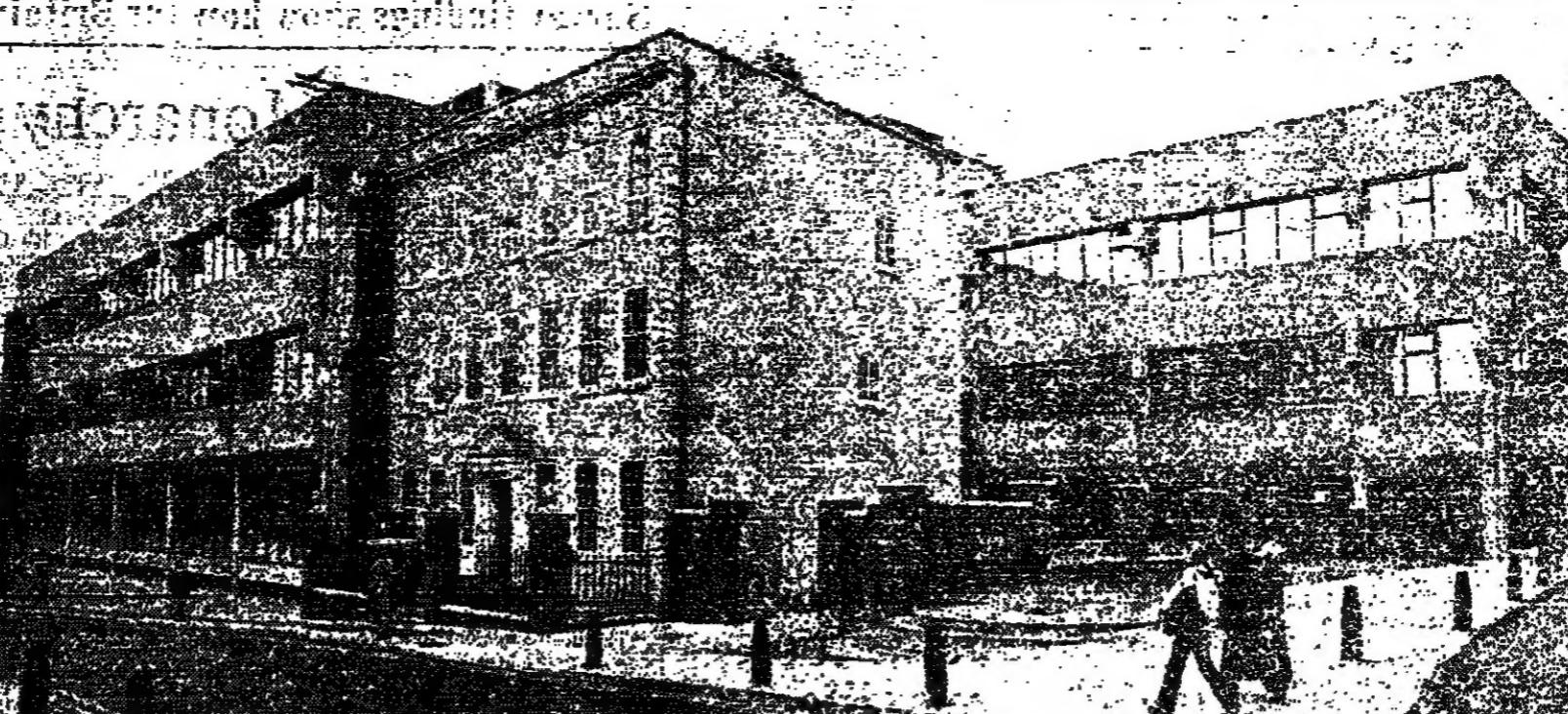
Civil Service union leaders are making confidential preparations for a conflict with the Government over pay this winter.

Seven unions have united to create a "central planning committee" to coordinate industrial action that may be mounted against the Cabinet's tough line on wage restraint in the public sector.

It will meet next week to review options for resistance to the Government's decision to fix an "arbitrary" salary rise of 650,000 white collar civil servants. Five main areas of action from propaganda to industrial "action" are being examined.

Unions in the Civil Service have been asked to consider the implications of a campaign of general and selective and other appropriate industrial action, which it is clearly recognized could result in large-scale suspensions of Government staff.

The coordinating committee is made up of one representative of each of the main unions.



The modern telephone exchange in Gloucester is an inappropriate neighbour for this handsome older building. The council now thinks it was a mistake.

When development spoils the charm of centuries past

The trouble with the planning system is that it cannot prevent bad architecture. Mr Peter Price, secretary of the National Civic Trust, observes: "No government or local authority can force a developer to employ a good architect."

In the past two decades there have been several developments in this historic cathedral city that should never have been allowed.

Now all are as hideous as the college of technology, which confronts the ruins of medieval Greyfriars; some are pleasant and popular, such as the Kings Square shopping precinct. But together they have combined to destroy much of the charm, character and mystery that are the legacy of Gloucester's history.

The process began nearly twenty years ago with the publication of a plan for the renewal of the city centre by the eminent architect, Geoffrey Jellicoe. That was followed by

The Government, in a draft circular to local authorities last month made proposals for speeding planning procedures and reducing what it saw as bureaucratic and unnecessary delays. They met with warm approval from the building industry and qualified enthusiasm from architects but dismay from local authorities and conservation groups, and outright hostility from the Royal Town Planning Institute and the National and Local Government Officers' Association.

The present system of control is said by its defenders to have prevented the excesses that would have resulted from un-

controlled development and to have helped to preserve the character of towns, villages and individual buildings.

But those who regard the system as cumbersome are entitled also to question its effectiveness. Contemporary Britain is perhaps less ugly than it might be, but certainly uglier than it should be. The planners have made appalling mistakes in promoting destructive and unpopular development and in failing to guard against unwelcome change and intrusion. In the first of an occasional series, JOHN YOUNG describes some obvious and other less well known examples.

Nonetheless, the damage cannot be undone. The next battle is likely to be over the redevelopment of the former docks, where the British Waterways Board is said to be anxious to demolish several impressive warehouses.

The council and the trust are expected to press for restoration. A victory for them would go some way to improve Gloucester's badly dented reputation.

years. In conjunction with the trust, it has established a civic design committee, to which important planning applications are automatically sent for comment.

Mr Beaumont says: "We are lucky in that there is not too much conflict between the conservationists and the developers that you find in some places."

Mr Price agrees. "We are by no means critical of everything the city does. We have a good relationship, and have had for some years."

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In brief

Factory farming defended

The National Farmers' Union yesterday replied to animal welfare critics by publishing a pamphlet which states that intensive factory farming is humane and efficient.

Mr Alan Jackson, deputy president of the union, told a press conference that implementing suggestions by campaigners would force up prices.

Magistrates told of animal Belsen

Frederick Lane, aged 55, of Church Lane, Arnold, Nottingham, turned his home into an "animal Belsen". Nottingham magistrates were told yesterday. He was fined £300, with £210 costs, and banned from keeping a dog for 10 years after being found guilty of gorging and poisoning seven dogs.

Union leader cleared

Robert Tomlins, a leader of the National Graphical Association, was cleared by magistrates at Wolverhampton yesterday of using threatening behaviour on a picket line. Mr Tomlins, of Beverley Close, Bedford, was alleged to have shouted "kill the scabs" in a disturbance outside the offices of the Express and Star newspaper.

Ploughman's feat

Mr John Shave, farm foreman for F. and R. Kemp Ltd, of East Hurling, Norfolk, claimed a new world ploughing marathon record of 149 hours 37 minutes, yesterday.

His sponsor will pay £1,500 to charities.

First-class conductors

The Post Office today issues stamps which honour the following British conductors: Sir Henry Wood (12p); Sir Thomas Beecham (13p); Sir Malcolm Sargent (13p) and Sir John Barbirolli (17p).

Early Titian on loan

An early work by Titian, "Portrait of a Young Man", has been lent to the National Gallery for a year by Lord Halifax. The painting, dating from about 1515, goes on show today.

Radio strike goes on

Production and engineering staff at Capital Radio, in London, decided yesterday to continue their strike over pay. The station is still broadcasting.

Cannabis inquiry

British customs investigators flew to The Netherlands yesterday in connection with two finds of cannabis resin on the south coast, worth a total of about £3m.

Refugee student grant

From next Monday refugees living in Britain will be entitled to the same student award benefits as home students when taking degree courses.

A new combination of proven techniques pioneered in Germany and Switzerland and developed in Britain by the Electricity Supply Industry can bring energy savings of up to 80% in indoor swimming pool installations. These techniques are now applicable to existing swimming pools as well as the new projects.

In the face of soaring fuel costs, swimming pools are not the most obvious target for cost-cutting exercises. Offices, shops and factories get far more attention. Yet only rarely can either commerce or industry show the spectacular sort of savings which are now possible, thanks to the application of heat pump heat recovery in indoor pools.

At Aberdeen, the Grampian Regional Council in association with the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board have proved these techniques in six swimming pools. Their indoor pool at Tullos has already been operational for over two years, clearly demonstrating that these energy savings are more than a mere possibility.

The key is not only to prevent waste but also to put the waste process into reverse. This is made possible by a heat pump, which can recover heat normally wasted in both the air and water leaving the buildings. It can also dehumidify the air in the pool hall. The heat obtained can then be re-used. This heat-recovery technique can achieve 50% savings in the total fuel and energy costs, compared with correctly operated conventional pools.

At Tullos indoor pool, the savings made are even greater because ozone has been used as the main pool water disinfectant and the potential for cost-cutting through air

Prizes for local councils in energy-saving scheme

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

Local government, which

is estimated to cost the

country council or big city

authorities about £7m a year

and about £150,000 for an

average district council.

Launching the scheme, Mr

Francis Krejza, Tesco property

director, said the group had

saved more than £1.3m last year

on energy and this had played

an important part in its efforts

to hold consumer prices.

With ozone water treatment they no

longer arise. The better quality pool water

means that chlorine eye irritation is avoided.

Experience of the higher attendances which

result is proof enough of the improved

conditions.

For more information tick box No. 2.

eventually returned to drugs. By that time he had lost his friends, his job and his marriage.

Mr Edwicks, who is being supported in his claim by the Citizens' Commission on Human Rights, a Scientology-backed organization, then took to stealing and forging prescriptions to get the drug.

Before 1960 he had been able to buy the amphetamines in chemist shops after the drug was initially prescribed at Moseley Hill Hospital.

For six years I took these tablets and became utterly addicted to them.

After serving nine prison sentences, Mr Edwicks had no hope of help him, but it was unsuccessful and he

was eventually returned to drugs.

By that time he had lost his friends, his job and his marriage.

He is now unemployed, and

is officially prescribed eight to

10 Dextroamphetamine tablets a day and gets a war pension disability allowance.

Mesrey health authority said

they were writing to Mr

Edwicks to explain that while

they were sorry to hear of his

deterioration in health there was

no evidence to suggest the

drugs were improperly pre-

scribed. Complaints should be

made within three years of

treatment, not after 25 years.

With prizes worth £4,000

Tesco Stores Ltd, which pays

nearly £7m in rates, launched

the scheme with the support of

local authority associations and

the Local Authorities Manage-

ment Services and Computer

Committee.

It is estimated that the cost

of energy for an average

country council or big city

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HOME NEWS

Minister for sport urges football clubs to consider ban on the sale of alcohol at grounds

Football clubs should consider banning the sale of alcohol at grounds, Mr Hector Monro, Minister for Sport, said yesterday.

His proposal comes after violence at Oldham and the death of a supporter at Middlesbrough on Saturday.

Mr Monro said that he was disturbed and shocked by the incidents. "We must all pull together to stop this mindless violence but in the final analysis it is football itself which must take the major part in putting its own house in order."

Despite criticism from some quarters, he said, he believed the police were doing an outstanding job in difficult circumstances and under severe provocation.

"Calls for tougher sentences have been made and the Government have ensured that the courts have the power to impose stiff penalties on offenders. In doing so they will support the police in their arduous duties."

It was government policy to

increase the provision of attendance centres to deal with young offenders. Since they took office, an additional 17 attendance centres had been started and with eight more due to open shortly there would be a total of 102 centres by the beginning of next month.

Particular emphasis has been given to increasing the number of centres dealing with offenders in the 17 to 20 age range," Mr Monro said.

The attendance centre order is particularly suitable for these offenders, since it deprives them of their liberty at just that time, Saturday afternoon, when they might otherwise cause trouble at a football match."

Mr Monro said that it was stated at a recent Home Office conference on violence on transport that alcohol greatly contributed to football hooliganism. "I firmly believe this to be the case."

The National Union of Licensed Victuallers said yesterday that it would welcome a

ban on the sale and consumption of alcohol at football grounds.

Murder hunt: Det Chief Supt Raymond Basham, head of Cleveland CID, who is leading the hunt for the killer of Mr Craig French, aged 17, of Nottingham, travelled to Nottingham with 10 detectives yesterday.

Mr French died after an incident at the end of Saturday's match between Middlesbrough and Nottingham Forest. He received head injuries.

In Middlesbrough detectives made house-to-house inquiries yesterday to try to trace witnesses. The police said the response to an appeal for witnesses had been good.

Grimby action: Grimby Town Football Club said yesterday that any supporters causing trouble or damage at Blundell Park or on away trips would be banned from the ground and all further outings.

The club intends to institute proceedings against any sup-

porter causing damage.



Barry Justice: "three main difficulties"

Depressed actor took own life

Mr Barry Justice, the television actor, aged 39, shot himself two months after joining *Exit*, the voluntary euthanasia society, an inquest was told yesterday. The star of *The Pallisers* series left a note saying he had "exercised his inalienable right of choice".

Dr Paul Chapman, the Westminster Coroner, was told by Mr Justice's doctor, Dr Robert Lefevere, that the actor had three main difficulties: work, depression and drink.

Mr Justice was particularly concerned about trouble in getting regular employment. He had bouts of depression and would sometimes cry for his apparent failures. Also over the years he had bouts of drinking excess alcohol, Dr Lefevere said.

Mr Justice had registered with a group which helped people with alcohol difficulties. He was also concerned about the possibility of losing his flat at Sunhouse Gardens, South Kensington, London. He was found dead there on August 6 with a shotgun wound in his head.

Lord Thomson said the awards of new independent television contracts would be announced on December 28.

48-day prediction: Mr Gwynfor Evans, Plaid Cymru president, who has said he is prepared to starve to death over the issue, said yesterday that his fast would last about 40 days (the Press Association reported).

He plans to begin his fast taking water only, on October 6.

SNP "solidarity": Scottish National Party members are to be asked to take part in an act of self-denial" on October 6 (our Edinburgh Correspondent writes).

The party president, Mr Wilf Hanifield, said yesterday that he would put it to the national executive this week. The 40,000 members would be asked "to deny themselves something" or send a contribution to Plaid Cymru.

Mr Justice killed himself.

Mr Nichols Reed, general secretary of *Exit*, told the inquest that Mr Justice was not regarded by the group as a typical case. The motive for the method of his death were not "counselled" by the society.

Mr Ian West, a pathologist,

told the court that severe changes found in Mr Justice's liver were consistent with alcoholism. He had a blood alcohol count of 20% and would have been drunk at the time of his death.

Mr Chapman said: "The act was not an act, I do not think of euthanasia or self-deliverance. It was suicide while suffering from depression." He recorded a verdict that Mr Justice killed himself.

Man dies in remand cell fire

'One push of button' idea for Welsh viewers

By Kenneth Gosling

A man on remand was found dead yesterday in his smoke-filled cell at Armley jail, Leeds.

Trevor Baird, aged 29, who faced charges of attempted abduction, assault, burglary and threatening to kill, was found dead in a smoke-filled cell at Risley Remand Centre, Warrington, in mental proceedings.

The Huddersfield-born man had barricaded his cell door with a table and bed. His death was a copy of that of another Huddersfield man, Stephen Anderson, who was found dead in a smoke-filled cell at Risley Remand Centre, Warrington, in July.

Anderson had been jailed for life 24 hours earlier after his part in the murder of two women at the Boarded Barn mansion in Cheshire.

Mr Baird, of no fixed address, was arrested in June after an alleged attempt to kidnap a girl aged nine. He was remanded by magistrates on September 5.

In 1975 he was given a five-year sentence for rape, robbery, burglary and possessing a firearm. He was released in September, 1978, and last May was given a conditional discharge for burglary.

Majority they were to feel it had to be done on one channel, then of course the IBA would do it.

But on the purely broadcasting aspects, the best judgment one can make of the overall interest of those watching television in Wales is that to do it in this way is the best mix.

Lord Thomson said the awards of new independent television contracts would be announced on December 28.

48-day prediction: Mr Gwynfor Evans, Plaid Cymru president, who has said he is prepared to starve to death over the issue, said yesterday that his fast would last about 40 days (the Press Association reported).

He plans to begin his fast taking water only, on October 6.

SNP "solidarity": Scottish National Party members are to be asked to take part in an act of self-denial" on October 6 (our Edinburgh Correspondent writes).

The party president, Mr Wilf Hanifield, said yesterday that he would put it to the national executive this week. The 40,000 members would be asked "to deny themselves something" or send a contribution to Plaid Cymru.

Mr Justice killed himself.

Mr Nichols Reed, general

secretary of *Exit*, told the inquest that Mr Justice was not regarded by the group as a typical case. The motive for the method of his death were not "counselled" by the society.

Mr Ian West, a pathologist,

told the court that severe

changes found in Mr Justice's liver were consistent with alcoholism. He had a blood alcohol count of 20% and would have been drunk at the time of his death.

Mr Chapman said: "The act was not an act, I do not think of euthanasia or self-deliverance. It was suicide while suffering from depression." He recorded a verdict that Mr Justice killed himself.

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Iran
dispute
flares up
Majlis

OVERSEAS

Mr Mugabe voices preference for one-party system but opposes any suggestion of dictatorship

From Frederick Cleary
Salisbury, Sept 9

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwe Prime Minister says he believes in a one-party state system but opposes any suggestion of dictatorship.

In a television interview in which he reviewed his four months in office, the Prime Minister said he did not see anything that impaired democracy by having a one-party state unless it was controlled by a dictator. "I don't agree with it," he said.

He believed that under the one-party system democratically elected people would be able to make their voices heard and the people would then be able to play a role in the capabilities of ministers within the Government as opposed to voting for political parties.

He thought that the Westminster system of paid official parliamentary opposition was "a waste of the tax-payers' money" as it was far better to let the people oppose issues as and when they arose rather than establish a group whose sole purpose was to oppose.

"If you are going to have an artificial situation where people must oppose for the sake of opposition I don't accept that this is the proper way of achieving democracy," he stated.

He did not see "anything wrong in" the Government. Mr Mugabe emphasized, however, that the present coalition administration which included Mr Joshua Nkomo, the leader of

the Patriotic Front, Mr David Smith of the Rhodesian Front and Dr Dennis Norman, the former head of the Commercial Farmers' Union, was working well.

He praised his white ministers for the "wonderful contribution" they were making.

He said the aims and objectives of the ruling Zanu (PF) party were similar to those of Mr Nkomo's party. Asked if in personally vetted speeches and statements made by Cabinet ministers some of which had caused much controversy, Mr Mugabe admitted that there had been errors in these areas before but this had now been rectified and his ministers were, after all, "very responsible people".

The country's biggest problem now was the lack of funds available in acquiring land for resettlement and the integration of the Zanla and ZIPRA guerrilla armies with the former Rhodesian security forces.

All three armies were interdependent in his view, as an atmosphere of peace would ensure a quicker establishment of normality in the country. He was satisfied that peace had returned to all but 10 per cent of the country.

Mr Mugabe said the black advancement programme in the civil service was being followed to ensure that existing skills were not destroyed.

Looking at the southern African political situation Mr Mugabe said that Swapo was

very positive and forthcoming in wanting talks with the South African Government over the future of Namibia (South-West Africa). But the Pretoria Government appeared to be reluctant to hold such talks. Zimbabwe was still prepared to play host to any conference both parties might want to hold.

Zimbabwe's final severance of diplomatic relations with South Africa last week had been a political decision and was meant as a gesture of his country's "friendship with the struggling people of South Africa".

In a speech yesterday elaborating on his economic policies, he invited private enterprise to take a new look at its responsibilities and called for a higher standard of living for workers, as well as equitable wages and further emphasis on training schemes.

Speaking at an economic symposium in Salisbury the Prime Minister said his Government's policies could be "decidedly socialist". However, it was realized that the Government would have to build on the present system.

While its policies would combine basic Marxist-Leninist theories with traditional capitalist collectivism, private enterprise would still have a role to play. But it could not "romp along unbridled" as it had in the past.

The initial socialist thrust would be concentrated in the areas of land resettlement and peasant agriculture, he stated.

Kampuchea: The one currency that buys imports flees the country

This is the third of five reports by David Watts, who recently visited Kampuchea.

The small market town of Sisophon close to the border with Thailand in north-west Kampuchea is a boom town, like some Middle Eastern oil town or something out of the old West in the United States.

In normal times the market would be a centre of the rice trade, making a modest but steady income for the townspeople; but these are not normal times either for Sisophon or for the Kampuchean economy.

The town's main street is packed with traders. Most people in north-west Kampuchea seem to be traders these days, looking over stalls offering T-shirts, fabrics, radios, cassettes, recorders, Japanese motor-cycles and rice from across the border. The town has the aggressive, garish air of a place that lives by its wits: there is an undercut current of air of violence.

To many people Sisophon is an outward and visible sign that Kampuchea is on the mend: that its economy is being regenerated and therefore ultimately there is hope that other sectors will regain visibility and confidence. In reality Sisophon, and other market towns like it, may ultimately be guaranteeing that Kampuchea's economy remains agriculturally-based for a long time.

Before the war the country had about 65,000 hectares of rubber plantation. At present 7,000 hectares have been planted and collection of the rubber tress has just started. Rubber production of the order 2,000 to 3,000 tons is expected this year.

It is not clear how much of aid and imports to maintain daily life and to start rebuilding: hardly surprising after the destruction of the last 10 years.

But what is surprising is how much of the limited wealth is being frittered away on non-essentials which have to be paid for in the only currency that there is to offer the outside world—gold.

No one knows how much gold has left the country since the defeat of the Khmer Rouge forces by the Vietnamese but it must amount to millions of dollars, running headlong out of the country through places like Sisophon to pay for consumer goods. The real basis of the country's ability to reconstruct itself and its economy is leaving the country day by day.

Without gold it is difficult to see how Kampuchea is going to be able to buy the spare parts desperately needed for the few basic industries that it is trying to revere or to start the task of building up some modest venture to offset imports.

There is precious little in the way of barter goods: any prospect of having surplus rice for export is a long way in the future. A start is being made on restarting rubber production.

Border closure would also deprive Vietnam itself of the goods that are now, passing through Kampuchea to Ho Chi Minh City where consumer goods seem to play a similar role to that in Kampuchea—as a palliative for economic problems.

Freedom to circulate such goods and the freewheeling trade that has built up among the people of the country-side, cycling furiously hither and thither with goods for cash or barter, is one of the most striking paradoxes of the pre-socialist evolution.

The problems of allowing such trade to develop for short-term economic and social reasons and then moving over to a pure socialist economic structure are manifest and it can only be assumed that Kampuchea's Vietnamese mentors have learned from their experience in Laos where the private sector is once again being allowed to play a greater role in the economy.

For Kampuchea the rebuilding of even minor industries is likely to be a long-term proposition, mainly being helped by the Government's insistence, as in many other areas, on relying on fraternal socialist countries to deliver the goods.

The first of Phnom Penh's two battery factories to reopen was built by the Vietnamese, that would seem to be a strange move. Officially the border is closed on the Kampuchean side but to seal it in practice would cause chronic shortages of consumer goods in Phnom Penh and the rest of the country.

Border closure would also deprive Vietnam itself of the balance coming from Taiwan.

But such problems are minor compared to the over-riding question of what happens to the economy when the gold runs out.

Next: Health and education.

Mao's death anniversary ignored by Peking

From David Bonavia,
Hongkong, Sept 9

The fourth anniversary of the death of Mao Tse-tung was officially ignored in Peking today. The anniversary fell when the National People's Congress, the country's parliament, was meeting.

Tomorrow's session of the congress is expected to nominate several deputy prime ministers to replace the seven men who have relinquished their posts over the past week. The most prominent new appointment is expected to be Mr Huang Hua, the Foreign Minister, whose cool and intelligent handling of China's diplomacy has won the respect of foreign envoys.

The Defence Minister has also to be replaced, following the resignation of the aged Mr Xu Xiangqian. The most important Councils of State have been those of Mr Hu Guofeng, the Communist Party chairman, and Mr Deng Xiaoping, the senior vice-chairman. Both men retain their party posts, while Mr Deng the unchallenged national leader for all practical purposes.

Whether on grounds of conscience or in accordance with instructions from above, several delegates have voiced criticisms of the present political system, the strongest coming from Mr Chen Haosu, believed to be the son of the former Foreign Minister, the late Marshal Chen Yi.

Leading article, page 15

Anti-abortion lobby makes itself felt in Australia

From Douglas Aitken
Melbourne, Sept 9

With the Australian Federal election approaching and no real issue yet in sight, the anti-abortion organization Right to Life seems to be having more impact than anything else.

Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, has not yet set the election date, but could well be as early as next month, in which case an announcement would have to be made within the next two weeks. The election must be held by February 1981.

Mr Fraser, apparently unperturbed, returns from the Commonwealth heads of government conference in Delhi this week and will presumably turn his attention to the election.

In the meantime, the Labour Party has already begun its campaign, under the leadership of Mr Bill Hayden, and with the slogan "Abortion is real birth". It is appropriate except the terrible statistics of the Government's handling of the economy.

The Right to Life Association, although dedicated only to the abortion issue and often appearing to be near hysterical in its public utterances, has become a highly organized and efficient machine.

It is beginning to arouse anxiety among politicians on both sides of the House of Representatives. Despite its somewhat

unbalanced view that each politician's worth and credibility relies solely on his or her stance on abortion, the association is getting somewhere in creating disruption.

A week ago, Mr Graham Harris, a newly-endorsed Liberal Party candidate, was more or less terrorized by members of the Right to Life organisation.

Confronted by demonstrators demanding to know his position on abortion, Mr Harris told them: "I have no comment at all. I have a view but I would prefer to wait until the party has decided on a policy before I say anything."

At the moment, although abortion on demand has not been legalized in Australia, it is easy in most states to obtain an abortion through a doctor's recommendation.

The Right to Life Association held a press conference in Canberra last week to announce its election strategy and its "chief targets". First among these is Mr Barry Simon, a Liberal MP, who successfully led the opposition last year to a move to stop women who had abortions receiving money from health funds.

Mrs Margaret Tighe, the national chairman, says: "We believe we're only going to achieve civil rights for the unborn through the ballot box." The 48-year-old former pharmacist is an active Roman Catholic.

Son and brother of S Korean dissident jailed

Thai Premier to retain key Army post

Bangkok, Sept 9.—General Prem Tinsulanonda, the Thai Prime Minister, has agreed to stay on as Commander-in-Chief of the Army to prevent a "probable" coup if he retired, the Bangkok Post reported today.

The English-language newspaper, quoting sources close to the Prime Minister, said the General had agreed reluctantly to have his term extended in order to head off fighting within the Army over his successor.

Army rivalry was such, the newspaper said, that the naming of a successor would "more than likely" lead to a change in Government, perhaps a violent change.

General Prem was originally due to retire at the end of this month during the annual reshuffle of top posts. But the Bangkok Post said he would stay on to reduce friction within the Army.

In addition to students, a powerful Army clique committed to democratic reforms, had originally opposed the idea of a prolonged mandate—Agence France-Presse.

Japan plans to increase armed forces in 1980s

From Peter Harshurst
Tokyo, Sept 9

Japan should build up its armed forces to cope with an "international instability" in the 1980s, but Japanese troops will be prohibited from operating abroad, Mr. G. Omura, the Director-General of the Defence Agency, declared today.

Speaking to journalists after meeting of the Cabinet, Mr. Omura said Japan had decided to build up its armed forces during the next five years. "But it might not be sufficient if Japan faces an adverse situation in the 1980s," he added. He went on to point out that the official policy of Japan's armed forces will be equipped for combat, a limited attack against the country. "But if we are confronted with large-scale aggression or a nuclear attack, we will have to wait on the United States for assistance. This is the result of Japan's basic policy on defence. As a result, there might be a need to increase the number of

troops and equipment," he said.

The strength of Japan's armed services, a highly controversial political issue since the end of the Second World War, is restricted to about 270,000 men. The strength of the Army, euphemistically called the Ground Self-Defence Forces, is strictly limited under the terms of the constitution to 180,000 troops.

However, the Defence Agency plans to raise the strength of the Navy and Air Force by an additional 5,400 men by 1984 to provide the three armed services with a total strength of 273,000 men.

Mr. Omura went on to deny suggestions that Japanese troops will be sent abroad to join the United Nations peace-keeping mission in trouble spots round the world.

Such a move would infringe

the terms of Japan's "peace constitution" which specifically prohibits Japanese troops from going abroad. Mr. Omura said.

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Boxing



In the public interest: Muhammad Ali (right) who is preparing for his world heavyweight championship bout against Larry Holmes, the champion, in Las Vegas on October 2, sparring with Marty Monroe in a Los Angeles square.

Finnegan still worth his salt even if he has lost some of his savour

From Sri Kumar Sen

Boxing Correspondent

San Remo, Sept 5.

If someone could convince Kevin Finnegan that he had a good chance of being nominated for the middleweight title if he successfully defends his European title tomorrow night at the Ariston Theatre here, I do not believe the Dubliner, a former amateur champion of Italy, the national champion, would have a chance. But after spending a delightful evening with Finnegan and his irrepressible Freddie Kelly, I think that could take some doing.

The 32-year-old European champion surely needs reassuring. He has travelled a long, hard road from the moment of his beaten in 20 hours, winning it over the distance. The Italian is 5ft 2in, a southpaw and a boxer-puncher. His opponents do not appear to have been of the highest quality, though he did beat the Pole in the European championship tournament, a favourite of the Victorian British and Russell.

It is a little soon, too, for the best technician in Britain to have to prove all over again after regaining the title from Gratton

of France, that he would be a worthy challenger for the world title by having to beat a man six years his junior and with a much more experienced ring experience.

Finnegan's last appearance in Munich in May, when he clung to his title by drawing with Georg Staubach, a German, and a terrible performance in the champion's appeal for the same

year, Umberto Branchini, that

Finnegan is ready "for taking".

Mr. Staubach does, however,

not seem to have been

good enough to step into the ring with the old

Finnegan.

Which gives some idea of the unknowns involved in the

middleweight title fight.

The champion, though somewhat

subdued, has not lost his humour.

When Mr. Hill gave him his salt tablets to combat the humidity of

his southern resort Finnegan add:

"What are these, Fred, horrid

things?" and quipped "I'm

Hill: "You take 'em, I've money

on you in the 2.30."

Golf

Strongest Irish side as big a threat as Scotland

By Lowine Muir

The home internationals start this morning over Royal Dornoch, a links in the same latitude as the opening England versus Ireland foursome in which Peter McEvoy and Paul Downes take on the English stars and the 16-year-old Paul Lawrie promises the most excitement. In the singles, there is an eagerly awaited clash between Peter Dooley and Rafferty.

Home advantage does not mean that the Irish are in it in that only five of the 11 Scots have previously made their way up to Dornoch. They have, however, made up for lost time by fitting in four rounds over the last few days, while Charlie Green, like McEvoy, has won the M&C, while

overseas preparations began with a full week of Sunday and no Monday every member of the side played a medal round in which none was over 73 and Peter McEvoy, the former amateur champion, had a 160.

Since the arrival of a new green-keeper earlier this year, greens which have been allowed to shrink down the years, have been restored to their former size. Having been promised a trophy, the three ruts and even four putts are very much on the card, and he is determined that each of his men

will now exactly where the pins are this morning. If no official pin positions have been issued he will be out there himself at first light.

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Sports politics

Move against apartheid

YACUANDA, Sept 6.—Amadou Lamine Di, the secretary general of the Supreme Council for Sports in Africa, today called on all "armoured men" to lend their support to the international convention against apartheid in sport.

Di, who is president of the world committee against being drawn into the same sporting arena as "racing and apartheid regimes", has just returned from New York, where he had discussions

with the United Nations Special Committee on Apartheid in Sport, and with CSA president, Mr. Abraham Ordia—Agence France-Presse.

Perry's comeback

Mike Perry, recovered from his ruptured Achilles tendon, will play his first game since March, in the centre for Tuesday against Rugby at the Reddings tonight.

For the Record

Golf

ROBERT OF ARAGON: Ireland Open, round 2, D. Vaughan, 70, Conn, 70, 70, 70, 280; J. H. Taylor, 70, 70, 70, 70, 280; D. B. Barnes, 70, 70, 70, 70, 280.

Tennis

BOBBY VEMBA BEACH: Final, D. Ward, 6-3, 6-3; N. P. Smith, 6-3, 6-3; D. Ward, 6-3, 6-3; N. P. Smith, 6-3, 6-3; D. Ward, 6-3, 6-3; N. P. Smith, 6-3, 6-3.

TOKYO: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 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IBM, a research partner in Europe.



"Over a third of us in Hursley have inventions to our credit."

The video terminal is simplifying work for more and more people by putting data at their fingertips," says Don Barclay of IBM's British development laboratory in Hursley. Don heads a group of electronic, optical and chemical experts who are studying new materials and processes for video screens of the future. "Our mission is to improve the quality of the screen. We've had an interesting spin-off from our research," he says. "We've found a new way of processing a chemical that could otherwise be a health hazard. It is not directly related to our mission, but we are pursuing it because of its environmental significance. About 1,200 people work in the Hursley laboratory, and over a third of us," says Don, "engineers and computer scientists, now have inventions to our credit."

Many of the ideas for IBM products in use around the world originate in Europe. IBM employs over 5,000 people in research and development here, ensuring that products suit European requirements and offering scientists high-level jobs

in their local environment. IBM's investment as an industrial partner in Europe is not limited to product development. Important theoretical work is carried out as well. The Zurich laboratory, for instance, is devoted to basic research in physics, solid-state technology and communications. The six scientific centres collaborate with local universities on projects of human concern such as medicine and environmental sciences. Their findings often go beyond national borders and prove valuable to other countries.

IBM, 5,000 research and development jobs in Europe:

In four development laboratories in France, Germany, Sweden and the UK.

In six software development centres in Austria, France, Germany, Holland, Italy and Sweden.

In the basic research laboratory in Switzerland.

In the scientific centres in France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the UK.

Plus sabbaticals, fellowships, scholarships for scientists and students.

"A programming language must be like street signs. Absolutely clear."

The aim of a programming language is to enable the user to give the computer very precise instructions," explains Günther Ziesel. "Like street signs, the meaning must be absolutely clear." Günther's group at IBM's Austrian development centre in Vienna has expanded the vocabulary of a programming language, one that is very popular with users of small computers because of its simplicity. The new vocabulary took ten people three years to create. "But it was very worthwhile," says Günther. Now small computer owners can write programs which allow them to converse with a data bank. This usually requires learning a far more complex language.



"Research is like finding a valuable stone. You want to keep digging for another."

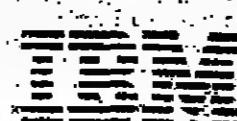
Werner Baechtold and his fellow scientists at IBM's basic research laboratory in Zurich have developed a device called the Josephson junction. It switches electricity one hundred times faster than the company's present integrated circuits. "Here in Zurich, we're always in the world of the highly experimental," says Werner. "We're a long way from the product design stage."

"Research for me is like finding a valuable stone. You want to keep digging for another. Thinking about what you don't yet know is what makes life interesting." Other scientists at the Zurich laboratory are involved in physics and theory of communications. All maintain close and continuing interaction with the scientific community.



"There will be five different climates in our greenhouse."

At IBM's scientific centre in Madrid, Fernando Inceris' research group is helping the Universidad Autonoma create an experimental greenhouse. Five computer-controlled environments, each climatically and nutritionally different, will permit the study of the plants' requirements. "In Spain, fertilizer is very expensive," explains Fernando. "It will help the farmer a great deal to know exactly what their crops need. Our system is like a mechanical gardener that observes the prevailing conditions. Sensors in the greenhouse are its eyes and it adjusts the greenhouse equipment automatically."



Ian Bradley on the uncharacteristically sober mood of this week's party conference at Blackpool

The Liberals, desperately looking for that old inspirational fervour

Blackpool

Liberal assemblies tend to be optimistic, even euphoric occasions. Leaders rally the party faithful and put fire into their hearts, following the style of Mr Jo Grimond with his famous cry in the late 1960s that he was leading his troops to the sound of gunfire. There is often a providential by-election victory shortly before the assembly which gives the chance for a new conquering hero to be paraded and cheered by the assembled masses. Rank and file Liberals traditionally leave the conference resort feeling that the promised land of proportional representation, industrial co-ownership and Liberal government is a good deal nearer than they had thought when they arrived.

The mood at this year's assembly, which starts in earnest today after two days devoted to policy commissions and private business on the party constitution, is likely to be more restrained and low-key. Mr David Steel is a leader in a less flamboyant and charismatic mould than either Mr Grimond or Mr Jeremy Thorpe and does not offer or claim to offer the same oratorical fire and inspiration to his followers. There have been no spectacular by-election victories in the past few months.

Above all, perhaps, the unusually sober mood of this assembly is dictated by the mood of the party rank and file. There is a general feeling that after nearly 18 months of a Conservative Government doing unpopular things and of a Labour Party tearing itself apart the Liberals should be in a much better position in the eyes of the electorate than they in fact are. Although Mr Steel's personal standing in the country is high, all the evidence of opinion polls suggests that his party commands virtually no more support than it did at the last election and that there remains a general public indifference to its policies.

The low morale of the Liberals is further increased by widespread differences within the party over how best it should capitalise on the present political situation and win over disaffected Labour and Conservative supporters to its side. Essentially three different strategies are being proposed; each is likely



Mr David Steel: a hard task in his closing speech on Friday.

to be voiced in the debates in Blackpool over the next three days.

The most radical is for the Liberal Party to drop its middle-of-the-road position in favour of commitment to major changes in economic and defence policy which would have the effect of putting the Liberals much closer in ideology and approach to certain elements on the left of the Labour Party.

This strategy, which finds favour with young Liberals and with other younger activists, is likely to find its strongest expression during the defence debate tomorrow when an attempt will be made to commit the party to unilateral nuclear disarmament, withdrawal from Nato and re-

fusal to allow the siting of Cruise missiles in Britain. It is also likely to be expressed in calls during economic debates for an alternative strategy and import controls.

There would be an undeniable attraction to many Liberals in their party committing itself to more radical policies. A crusade in favour of nuclear disarmament in particular would provide something of the moral and inspirational fervour which was so important a factor in the success of the Liberal Party 100 years ago and for which many of the Nonconformist and radical elements in the party still hunger. It might also give the party the clear identity in the eyes of the electorate it now lacks. It is an identity, how-

ever, which the leadership fears would lose rather than win votes.

The second strategy overlaps in a certain extent with the first. It too seeks to recreate the days when Liberalism was primarily a moral and ideological force and wants to see the party espouse causes like ecology and cooperation. It is, however, more philosophical in its approach, concerned above all with assessing the distinctive and historic values of liberalism.

The proponents of this second strategy are a mixed bunch, including many Liberals active in local government in the traditional Nonconformist heartlands of the North together with ecologists and other more partisan Liberals from rural

areas. Their feelings perhaps bid their best expression in a motion to be debated on Friday, which affirms that Liberalism is historically and in its practice a consistent and distinctive political philosophy, different from social democracy and other ideologies. The motion seeks to commit the party to campaigning for Liberalism in the community and through representative bodies.

Behind this motion, and behind the speeches which are likely to be made on Friday by member of this second strategy group, lies a deep sense of worry about the recent flirtations of the Liberal leadership with dissentient social democrats in particular with Mr Roy Makinson. A fear that the Liberal Party could be swamped in a new predominantly social democratic centrist party is likely to lie at the heart of several of the contributions on Friday's debate.

The third strategy which is already

under way

in the

party

is

the

one

which

MR J. T.
CHRISTIE
headmaster
College
Principal

The challenges
facing world's
car makers,
page 19

- Stock Markets FT 1nd 503.9 up 1.9 FT Gilt 7.04 up 1.41
- Sterling \$2,400 down 1.80 cents Index 76.0 down 0.5
- Dollar Index - not available DM 1.79/5 up 30 pts
- Gold \$669 down 53.50
- Money 3 mth sterling 16.161 3 mth Euro 5.117.116 6 mth Euro 5.117.121

IN BRIEF

Vancouver oilstocks resume trading

Deals in Double Eagle and Warrior Resources, two Canadian oil stocks traded in London, resumed on the Vancouver Stock Exchange after the two companies issued a statement clarifying details of their present drilling programme.

Deals were halted for just over one day while the Vancouver exchange investigated the rapid rise in the share prices. The shares have risen on speculation about an important oil find in Alaska and on the involvement of Mr James Slater, a Warrior, in which it is believed he has a 20 per cent holding.

The Vancouver Exchange said it was satisfied with the statement but would continue to watch the trading in the shares of both Vancouver and London.

Trade in Double Eagle stopped at 600p after the shares had risen 180p on Friday's closing price and Warrior Resources stopped at 370p, a rise of 90p on the level before the weekend.

But the prices slipped back after dealings resumed and by the close of business in Vancouver Double Eagle was trading at around the equivalent of 500p and Warrior Resources at 320p.

Tokyo car talks

The growing Shanghai Japanese yesterday car manufacturers the two-day Anglo-Japanese talks which have started in Tokyo. The British delegation is headed by Sir Bernard Scott, president of the Society of Motor Manufacturers. Challenge to car makers, page 13.

Closure threat

A strike in Silvertown, calling of Elderslie near Paisley, delivery agents could close down Scotland's only car plant, the Talbot factory in Linwood near Stevenage, which produces Sunbeam and Avenger cars for the French consortium of Peugeot-Sixt. The plant is fast running out of storage space.

NUM investigation

The National Union of Mineworkers is waiting to hear from its own experts investigating its New Buckleholme at Mansfield, where the cost board wants to lose because it is almost broke. More than 600 could be lost.

Lousing starts fall

Builders started work on 1,400 homes in July, compared with 22,500 in July 1979, according to figures published yesterday by the Department of the Environment.

Danish Bacon forces

The Danish Bacon group is considering more closures after near £2m turn-round from profits to losses during the first half of this year. Three branches have been closed ready by the company, involving the loss of 394 jobs. Through its investment, page 13.

Wall Street higher

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 6.15 points up 934.73. The S & P against the DR was 1.32247. The £ was \$4.6855.

PRICE CHANGES

	Bank Buy	Bank Sell
Bank of Scotland	£2.15	£2.05
Barclays	£2.15	£2.05
Benson & Hedges	£2.05	£2.05
British American Cigarettes	£2.05	£2.05
Chase Manhattan	£2.05	£2.05
City of London	£2.05	£2.05
Country Finance	£2.05	£2.05
First Trust	£2.05	£2.05
Industrial and Commerce	£2.05	£2.05
Investment Bank	£2.05	£2.05
Leeds Building Society	£2.05	£2.05
Midland Bank	£2.05	£2.05
NatWest	£2.05	£2.05
Prudential Building Society	£2.05	£2.05
Standard Chartered	£2.05	£2.05
Sun Life	£2.05	£2.05
Swiss Bank	£2.05	£2.05
Tele Bank	£2.05	£2.05
Trust Bank	£2.05	£2.05
Woolworths	£2.05	£2.05

THE POUND

	Bank Buy	Bank Sell
Bank of England	£1.45	£1.45
Bank of Scotland	£1.45	£1.45
Barclays	£1.45	£1.45
Chase Manhattan	£1.45	£1.45
Industrial and Commerce	£1.45	£1.45
Leeds Building Society	£1.45	£1.45
Midland Bank	£1.45	£1.45
National Building Society	£1.45	£1.45
Prudential Building Society	£1.45	£1.45
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Woolworths	£1.45	£1.45

British business may suffer if Congress agrees to investment control

Carter fight to block curbs on foreign finance

United States to far more control and regulation.

Mr Bergsten pointed out that the growing demand for controls had been sparked to some extent by fears that Arab interests were taking control of American United States assets.

He told a Congressional hearing that foreign investment had grown sharply in the last few years. The assets of non-bank United States subsidiaries of foreign companies were now in excess of the latest commerce department data showing a volume of \$132,000m (£33,900m).

British companies have been particularly large investors in America in recent years and they would suffer if Congress passes the legislation. It is considering it would subject foreign investment in the

United States to far more control and regulation.

Mr Bergsten pointed out that the growing demand for controls had been sparked to some extent by fears that Arab interests were taking control of American United States assets.

He said there was no justification for these fears and investments from member nations of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries owned something like a one-hundredth of 1 per cent of the capital stock of United States companies.

Mr Bergsten gave a warning that new regulations could lead to retaliation by foreign countries and severely damage the United States' balance of payments. Trillion dollar investment of United States companies abroad to do more than

Bank and the International Monetary Fund which is studying this subject. He said the findings of the task force would be presented to the annual meeting of the World Bank to be held later this month.

In many cases, American investment was quite significant in foreign countries and policies of foreign governments were bound to be influenced by Congressional action. United States companies alone now controlled 43 per cent of the economy of the host country. Widespread use of incentive offers did far more good to recipient companies than to the competitive position of host countries and could have adverse effects on others.

Performance requirements could "become tantamount to a restrictive trade practice", the report says.

Frank Vogl

task force from this, he said, "strengthened our current account by \$37,800m last year, fully offsetting our deficit on merchandise trade and thus sustaining the dollar".

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Exchange rate and high productivity benefit Far Eastern yards

Japan takes 85pc of world ship orders

Japanese shipbuilders accounted for more than 85 per cent of all export orders placed with the world's shipyards in the first six months of this year. This is further evidence of the scale of the competitive advantage enjoyed by Japanese yards because of favourable exchange rates and high levels of productivity.

Half-year figures compiled by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris published yesterday showed that in the first six months of this year, Japanese shipbuilders secured export orders totalling 4,17,000 gross tons of a total export order volume of 5,521,000 gross tons, equivalent to 85.4 per cent of the total.

The balance was accounted for by orders placed with member countries of the Association of West European Shipbuilders which includes the United

Kingdom, France, West Germany and Italy.

According to the OECD, total export orders held by the leading shipbuilding nations at the end of June amounted to slightly over 12 million tons gross with Japan's yard accounting for more than 70 per cent of that total.

The OECD, which was closely involved in attempting to provide a breathing space for hard-pressed European ship builders two years ago and which encouraged Japan to make concessions to Europe, said that overall new orders received by the OECD shipbuilding group members in the first half of this year amounted to nearly eight million tons gross, boosting the industry's total order book by the end of the six month period to 18.7 million tons.

Japanese yards gained new orders totalling nearly six million tons in the first six months of the year, increasing the industry's order book to 10.5 million tons equivalent to nearly 50 per cent of the total order book by members of the OECD shipbuilding group.

The latest trend in the level of orders gained by the Japanese industry is bound to be a source of concern to European shipbuilders who are all suffering from the continuing lack of orders.

Although the Japanese industry has cut back its capacity considerably under government directions, the main influence on the level of orders its yards have been able to secure—despite the proliferation of subsidies in every shipbuilding nation—is been the rate of exchange of the Japanese yen against sterling and the United States dollar.

Peter Hill

French oil imports fall sharply

French crude oil imports declined by 10.1 per cent to 65.5 million tons during the first seven months of this year from 75.9 million in the corresponding 1979 period, according to *Bulletin de l'Industrie Pétrolière*.

In July alone, imports declined 2.2 per cent to 9.25 million tons from 9.97 million in July last year.

Over the January-July period, imports from Saudi Arabia and Iraq accounted for 57.2 per cent of the total.

Zinc plant cuts

Precious AG of Hanover has announced plans to cut zinc production at its Hars plant and reduce the workforce by 400.

Danish jobless

Unemployment in Denmark rose during July to 152,618, 5.8 per cent of the total labour force, the government's bureau of statistics has announced. This is up from 5.7 per cent in June and from 5.2 per cent in July last year.

Exxon coal venture

Exxon Corporation is going ahead with a £1,500m project to exploit the Cerrejón coal reserves in a joint venture with the Colombian national coal company.

Singapore project

The \$550,000m (about £400m) Sumitomo petro-chemical project to be set up on one of Singapore's surviving islands, will go ahead as planned, economic development board officials say.

Mission to China

A Japan-China Association mission has left Tokyo for Peking for a series of meetings with Chinese authorities.

Burroughs to invest £10m at Milton Keynes

By Kenneth Owen

Technology Editor

Burroughs, the American-owned computer company, is to invest £10m at Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, which means the creation of several hundred jobs in its first phase.

A 400-place residential training school is being built for completion by early 1983. It will be used to train Burroughs marketing staff from the United Kingdom and continental Europe, and also customers.

Mr Eric McClone, chairman of the company's Europe-Africa division, said yesterday that in Europe and Africa in general, and in the United Kingdom in particular, Burroughs had more than doubled business during the past five years.

Despite the worldwide economic situation, the company had more confidence that demand for its products would continue to grow. The new training school would supplement educational centres in France, The Netherlands, South Africa and Scandinavia.

Burroughs also plans to set up a major European distribution centre for the export of computer systems to world markets and a large computer installation in Milton Keynes. The latter will include a computer centre for the training school, and an on-line database system

for international communications.

The company has seven factories in Britain and an eighth should start operations in December, North Wales later this year. Four further factories are located in France, Belgium and The Netherlands. The company employs about 10,000 people in Europe and Africa.

General Instruments Microelectronics, of the United States, is expanding its plant in Glenrothes, Fife, with an 8.5m investment which should create 500 new jobs by 1985.

Another 44,000 square feet will be added to the factory. The investment for the expansion has been provided by General Instruments, the Scottish Office and the Department of Industry.

The company hopes that by 1985 the turnover will be three times that of last year.

Union and shop floor leaders said yesterday that they would mount an all-out campaign to oppose the latest factory closure in a Cheshire town.

It is some 2,000 unemployed and 40 job vacancies.

The announcement by Metal Box that it intends to close its cans plant at Winsford, Cheshire, is the second big blow to the town within a few months. Earlier ICL computers declared more than 500 redundancies at its plant there.

"We believe that everyone agrees that a good telephone communications service is vital to the commercial and industrial communities as well

PO council criticizes telephone price rises

By Bill Johnston

The Post Office Users

National Council has criticized British Telecom, the telecommunications arm of the Post Office for inefficiency and lack of productivity.

The attack is made in response to British Telecom's proposed increases in telephone charges which are to take effect from November 1.

The users council said yesterday: "Despite lengthy discussions we are not convinced that British Telecom has been sufficiently rigorous in making economies or improving productivity and efficiency."

The increase will mean a rise of 14 per cent on the basic telephone call charge, a 26 per cent rise in domestic rentals and a 48 per cent increase on business rentals.

The changes will put an extra 22 per cent or £8.30 on the average domestic bill of £50 a quarter and 18.5 per cent on the commercial bill of £178 a quarter.

Mr Peter Benton, managing director of British Telecom, said he had "no alternative but to go ahead with higher prices in November".

"We believe that everyone

agrees that a good telephone communications service is vital to the commercial and industrial communities as well

as to private citizens in Britain."

"We reject the allegation that we have taken the soft option and put up prices rather than improve productivity and increase efficiency," said Mr Johnstone.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Clearing the decks for a cut in MLR

Yet another set of dismal financial statistics—albeit no worse than expected—seem to have been greeted by tumultuous applause. The long end of the glib market finished with gains stretching to £2, while most moneymarket interest rates were half a point or so lower. And all (or at least mainly) at the drop of an index-linked bond for a rather broader range of grannies and grandads.

So what's going on? Well, the money supply figures, showing 3 per cent growth in banking August, are hardly good, even if they had been well leaked. The indication that the underlying growth rate in both July and August was probably of the order of 1.2 per cent in each month still puts the underlying annualized rate of growth from the February base of somewhere between 12 and 17 per cent. Moreover, the massive central government borrowing requirement for August gives previous little indication of a rein-back in the recent overshoot in central government spending.

But, as you may have guessed by now, we are told that the worst is over. The public sector borrowing requirement should look substantially healthier over the rest of the year, helped in no small measure by two large dollops of petroleum revenue tax, the first of which fell due on September 1, a tighter check on spending, special asset sales etc. Meanwhile, bank lending to the private sector is expected to moderate as the rate of price inflation abates and companies continue to de-stock.

A new issue of gravy bonds is estimated to yield some £150m between November and next April. That, of course, will be a major relief to the besieged gilt-edged market which, with the funding burden eased and the general outlook looking rosier, should be able to shoot ahead—helped by a few cuts in MLR to the kind of level some time next year when a virtuous monetary circle can be completed with the corporate sector refinancing its bank borrowing from the long term bond market.

At first sight it all looks grand. But unless the government lives up to its word on public spending, and unless pay settlements generally moderate fairly significantly, the possibility of a nasty accident and tears in the medium term remains. Short-term, the decks have been cleared for an MLR cut, though before that the market will presumably be fed with some partly-paid stock this Friday.

Reckitt & Colman

De-stocking damage at home

Reckitt & Colman was set for a £2m increase in first-half profits until the grocery trade began de-stocking in April. That cost Reckitt an extra £2m in interest charges on the borrowing needed to finance its own higher stocks. So with other cost increases British profits were almost halved to £2.5m.

Meanwhile, exports to Europe fell by a quarter and less favourable exchange rates cost overseas profits £4.12m. The outcome is interim profits to June 28 down by £2.45m to £22.8m on sales of £357m. One bright spot, though, has been North America, where profits recovered from £30,000 to £2.35m following loss-diminution and tighter management.

Borrowings, meanwhile, have moved up to their annual peak, up 30 per cent, although year-end borrowings will show a smaller rise from 1979's £85m net.

The point, then, is that while sterling remains strong Reckitt's profits will be under pressure. Full-year profits could be £3.6m below 1979's £51m, giving a fully-taxed profit ratio of 12.4% in 1980, a share, down 20 per cent. On the same dividend—the interim unchanged—the yield is 6.1 per cent. If profits come out at the lower end of the range the shares could be vulnerable.

S. Pearson

Publishing problems

Publishing profits at Pearson Longman have been decimated in the first half, on the newspaper side by National Graphical Association against the provincial proprietors earlier this year and in book publishing by organisational problems at Penguin where there was a further loss this time of £1.6m) and the general malaise in book publishing.

Disputes in the newspaper businesses—Estaminet Press and *Financial Times*—apparently cost profits more than £4m in the first half of the year—and while that in 'all being well' be regarded as exceptional, the recession, with its implications for advertising revenue, is now hitting hard. This and prospects which are described as "not good" for the remainder of the year Pearson Longman, in the cross that S. Pearson now has to bear. Its other interests, however,

Business Diary: Min of Aggro? • Baron Bic trims sails

Sir Walker, the Agriculture minister, evidently enjoyed his visit northwards yesterday, for he was able to tell fellow Conservatives that he is getting a taste of his own back at the bench for playing him up so much.

He told Westmorland Tories he have managed to persuade one of the major food chains which supply the consumer to embark on a massive Buy British campaign. They are Faro, Tesco and Sainsbury, the minister said, will promote Buy British campaigns in the next few weeks, with fruit and dairy produce top of the list.

The minister is particularly pleased that British growers have got together to market the x's Orange Pippin "because my mind—it is far better than French-produced Golden delicious."

If the British food industry said: "three to four years' concentration on... becoming our exporters as well as producers can bring long-term rewards to the agricultural industry and therefore to the country as a whole," except perhaps from France.



"My wife is sitting pretty: he has been appointed controller of queues at a Job Centre."

How much a year do you think Her Majesty's Government spends on entertaining foreign dignitaries here in pursuit of trade and political advantage? £28,000? £37,000? about £40,000? Much, much more? Or much, much less?

The answer is "about £40,000" this year's budget for the Government-Hospitality Fund. The other two figures are for the previous two years, as upon 40 or so official visits.

Balancing the books from now on at the head's office in Carlton Gardens is Brigadier Alan Cowan, who succeeds career civil servant Christopher Barclay on the latter's retirement as secretary.

Last year the money went on about 500 functions, ranging from full-blown banquets to drinks at Number Ten, as well as for the previous two years, as upon 40 or so official visits.

Great sorrow has driven a man to cut his own throat. Baron Bic, however, wants to cut someone else's—that of razor blade makers Gillette.

Baron Bic, who founded the Bic ballpoint pen company, is said to be all but inconsolable after the defeat of his yacht, France III (right), in the preliminaries for the America's Cup at Newport.

At 67 he believes that for the first time in an otherwise successful life he may not get another chance to turn defeat into victory.

Born in Italy and schooled in Spain, Marcel Bic chose French nationality at the age of 18 when he went into business as an electric light bulb salesman. Before long, however, he switched to a fountain pen company which was then bought out by Stephens Inks. The young Bic did not want to work for the British company, so in 1944 he set himself up, with the help of a loan, making pens himself.

The liberating GIs arrived and brought with them the prototype of the Bic fortune—the ball point pen. The Baron, as he had become, followed this up with disposable lighters and razor blades.



Like Tommy Lipton, the tea knight, before him the ball point baron has found that he could not prize American fingers from the cup.

He is therefore said to be throwing himself back into the cut-throat business of razor blades with a vengeance.

Sam Toy, who Business Diary yesterday correctly tipped as the new chairman and managing director of Ford of Britain, is true to the company's tradition of executive self-effacement.

He was on holiday in Yugoslavia when the announcement was made yesterday afternoon and thus was unavailable for the interviews and photographs that might have put him before company if only for a day.

His predecessor, Sir Terry Becker, succeeds the late Sir John Methven as Director-General of the CBI at the end of the month. Sir Terry, too, is mindful of Ford's interests. On arrival at Centre Point he plans to have a Ford rather than the BL Rover that went with the job last time.

I am sure BL chairman and fellow-CBI stalwart Sir Michael Edwards will understand.

A British Airways Cargo Newsletter published in Canada says that a woman shopper looking at her cash register slip in a supermarket said: "That's about right. I usually pay about \$50 a foot for my groceries."

Ross Davies

Challenges facing the world's car makers

The 25,000-ton cruise liner, *Vistaflor*, is this week continuing its series of eight voyages from Liverpool to the Isle of Man bearing with it several thousand United Kingdom car dealers and distributors and the last great hope of the British motor industry.

BL has spent a modest £1m on chartering the ship and giving its dealers a preview of the Mini Metro, the state-owned company's new small car on which it is pinning its hopes for future success.

BL admits that if the Metro is a failure its mass produced car business will be beyond recall.

The Metro launch follows the introduction of the new Escort, the £3,000 "world car" on which Ford is also gambling for its future. The car, probably the most important single model to be developed by the motor industry since the Model T Ford, is to be built in Europe at Ford's Halewood factory in the United Kingdom and at Saarbrücken in Germany. Like the Metro, it will play a leading role in the uplift of the United Kingdom industry's spirits.

And British industry confidence is badly in need of an injection of optimism. It has been swamped this year by an unprecedented deluge of redundancies, lay-offs and short-time working which has affected both manufacturers and component suppliers alike.

But the 3,000 car salesmen discussing the finer points of the Metro on the decks of the *Vistaflor* this week and next know that many of their counterparts throughout most of the Western world are in the same position.

An investigation by Business News correspondents in some of the main car markets shows that, with the exception of Japan, most car makers are in the throes of a grim struggle to capture as many as possible of declining sales. The next upturn in demand, the experts tell them, will not come before the end of 1981.

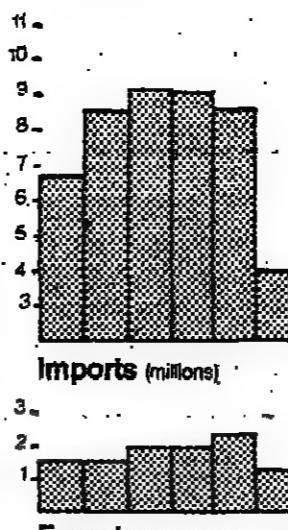
By that time, the world industry may have undergone some major structural changes. If BL fails, Britain could become largely an assembler rather than a manufacturer of cars; if new cars in the United States prove to be ill-suited there could be some major business collapses; and the Japanese could seize the opportunity to expand their overseas car assembly operations.

The manufacturers' response, seen already with the arrival of "world cars" made by the Americans, will be to standardize components and assembly facilities, to increase productivity and the use of automated plant and robots and, particularly with the smaller companies, to establish more joint design and development activities.

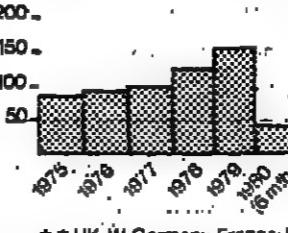
Car production, imports and exports.

USA

Production (millions)



Imports (millions)



Exports (thousands)

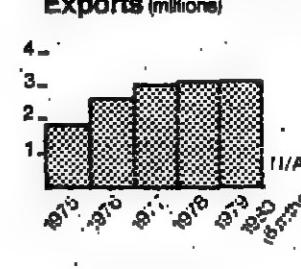
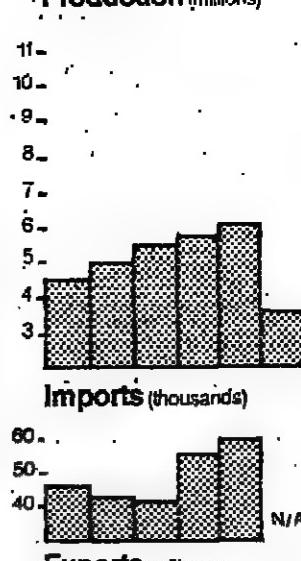


**UK, W Germany, France, Italy, Belgium, Spain.

* * The bulk of imports and exports represents trade between European countries.

JAPAN

Production (millions)



N/A

Europe: the main doubt is about Britain

Europe has the distinction of being the most highly concentrated car market in the world, despite the continuing structural changes that are taking place, production and exports from its huge motor industry are, with the exception of the United Kingdom, surprisingly resilient in the face of the recession.

Lay-offs and short-time working are new, in operation in all of the major producing countries, but output figures for the first six months of this year indicate that by the end of the year the numbers of cars produced in West Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, Belgium and Spain will not be too far short of the totals of the last four years.

Most forecasts suggest that the industries of France, West Germany and Italy will continue to expand once demand is on the increase again, while United Kingdom output, dependent upon a stagnating home market and a variety of scattered export markets, will stick at about 1 million cars a year.

Europe's biggest car maker, West Germany, produced just under 4 million units in 1979 but is at present producing at rates 8 per cent lower than last year. Imports are taking about 27 per cent of the home market led by France with 10 per cent and Japan with 5.6 per cent.

With five boom years behind it, the West German industry has accumulated healthy financial reserves to meet the expected slowdown in demand. The only surprise this year has been a sharp rise in Japanese small car imports.

Harshest hit have been the German subsidiaries of General

Motors (Opel) which offered early pensions and golden hand-shakes to shed 5,000 workers and Ford in Cologne which has begun a similar move to dispose of 6,000 jobs.

In France, the development of the car market over the last 12 years has confounded experts through its buoyancy. New registrations have risen steadily since 1968 to pass the 2 million mark for the first time in 1978. Exports, which increased by 7.5 per cent last year, are expected to rise again in 1981.

Figures for the industry, however, are predictably grim. Sales in June were down 16 per cent, output by 5.5 per cent and exports by 3 per cent.

Renault, which, like Volkswagen in Germany, switched early to the production of smaller, more efficient cars, is doing well and in the first five

months made more cars than Peugeot, Citroën and Talbot.

Talbot has laid off 2,000 workers in short-time working for 54,000 hours and Talbot has had layoffs affecting 23,000. At the end of July, M. André Giraud, the French industry minister said the industry did not need government support.

In Italy, the outlook is less optimistic, with Fiat seeking to reduce overall output by 30 per cent in the second half of 1981. In June and July, 78,000 Fiat workers went onto a four-day week and there is speculation that the company wants to shed 15,000 jobs. This has occurred in country which restricts Japanese car imports to 2,300 a year.

More lay-offs and short-time working are being experienced in the big Belgian assembly plants, most of which are

owned by parent companies abroad. Ford has halved output of Taunus cars at its German plant. In Flanders and Wallonia, 6,000 workers will be on short-time this month. General Motors and Volvo are also cutting back and total Belgian production is expected to be down by 5 per cent this year. There is also doubt about the long-term future of BL's plant at Senftenberg.

With Spain emerging as a major producer and exporter of cars from its new multi-national plants protected by high tariff barriers, the one big question mark in Europe hangs over the United Kingdom industry. Like Fiat, BL has had a fair share of state support; its future rests on new models now being launched but, say its critics, it is too far behind the competition.

Japan: still in an expansionist mood

of restraint on the British market.

As an alternative export market, the Middle East is now a major target and last year Saudi Arabia became Japan's second biggest vehicle export market.

For the foreseeable future, the Japanese motor industry sees "enemies" all around it because of what must appear to be egocentric sales drives across the world.

For one thing, domestic sales have reached saturation point not only in terms of numbers of cars registered (more than 30 million cars in a population of 110 million) but because of rising petrol-prices.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Prices surge ahead after banking figures

Gilts and equities surged ahead yesterday in the wake of the encouraging bank lending figures and the statement from the Treasury predicting a significant fall in money supply.

Equities, after a quiet but firm start to the day, came in for heavy buying later in the afternoon and the FT Index rose 3.7 up at 3 o'clock, burst through the 500 mark to close 11.9 higher on the day at 503.9. One dealer described conditions as euphoric. Activity continued after 4 hours, although on a more selective note.

Gilts were firm from the start showing opening gains of £1 and the medium tap Treasury 112 per cent 1991 (A) was quickly sold out at £461. Conditions remained firm up to the publication of the banking figures when dealing was halted for 40 minutes to allow time to study the Treasury statement.

However, the buying orders piled up and when dealings resumed prices soared with gains of up to a point at the long end in heavy two-way trade.

Market men were soon speculating on the next cut in the lending rate, encouraged by the news of the new index-linked savings certificates which will reduce the Government's need to tap the market.

Including further gains after hours, longs ended the day with rises stretching from £2 to £23. One dealer reported doing business in the medium tap at £482 after hours while short-dated stocks stretched earlier gains of 2% before the banking figures to 5%.

In the equity market, electronic began the day in fine style and the pace accelerated with the rest of the market in the afternoon.

Buyers piled into GEC and with the jobbers unable to supply stock the price shot up 22p to close at the top at 524p. The rest followed with good figures from BICC, up 4p to 146p, lending further encouragement.

Electronic Rentals rose 4p to 113p on hopes of lower interest rates, Racal 13p to 336p. Plessey

13p to 253p and ICI 8p to 194p. Midland 7p better at 348p and Lloyds up a like amount at 328p.

Other leading equities generally went better after the banking figures as the buyers piled in. Beecham, tipped in two brokers' circulars, rose 6p to 154p, ICI 6p to 372p, Glaxo 4p to 240p and Fisons 2p to 229p.

Unilever rose 2p to 248p, Lucas

10p to 240p.

Toddy the end of the do-it-

yourself boom will probably

claim another victim with

interim results from Leyland

Paints & Wallpaper. Leyland

had a bad 1979 and no doubt

wants to forget the first half

of 1980. The shares at 27p are

already at this year's low; the

high was 48p. The 15.4 per cent

yield is saying something.

Buying was across the board

with MEPC up 7p to 250p,

Land Securities 12p higher at

289p and British Land 2p

firmer at 92p. Stock Converters

was a good market, rising 17p

to 430p and Peacock added 6p

to 162p. Buying continued in

late dealing and most con-

siders made further gains of

2p to 5p after hours.

In a firm banks sector Stan-

dard Chartered was the main

gainer, rising 40p to 594p.

Lower interest rate hopes

helped Union Discount up 25p

to 518p and Alexander's Dis-

count went 3p better at 269p.

Clearing banks shared in the

heavy buying of the leading

shares, with Barclays up 7p at

428p, Nat. West up 5p at 393p.

S. Pearson slipped 3p to 221p.

Goldman failed to hold best

levels after opening higher close

to overnight New York levels.

Prices eased by profit-taking but

most still showed reasonable

gains, with Anglo-American

Gold up from 45% to 47%.

W. Driestra 1% higher at

E41, and St Helens up from

E2213 to E224. Mining finances

issues went better but closed

the best with Cons Gold

8p easier at 55p, and Chancery

Consolidated 1p lower at 245p.

RTZ eased 5p to 455p.

Equity turnover for Septem-

ber 8 was £100.42m (number

of bargains marked 15,105).

The most active stocks yesterday

according to Exchange Tele-

graph were GEC, Plessey,

BSI, Stan. Chartered, BAT,

BICC, Barclays Bank, Midan,

KCA Inst. Premier Oil, Ultra-

mar, Marks & Spencer and Cons

Gold.

Traded options had an active

day with a total of 1.51m

trades traded. London was most

in demand with 458 contracts

mostly in the November session.

Cons Gold was also active with

284. Traditional options

were also more active with

Lonrho actively called. A pur-

chase was done in Carless, Capel

and doubles in Tarter, Petroleum

ENFC and P. & O.

Lower interim profits from Reckitt & Colman left the shares 2p easier at 198p and GRE rose 16p to 356p. Royal 20s, to 458p, and Sun Alliance 10p to 782p. Prudential added 3p to 240p.

Deals were halted in two recent high-fliers, the Canadian oil exploration companies Double Eagle and Warfar Resources, at 600p and 370p.

Elsewhere in oils the under-

ton was firm although not all

shared in the market rise. BP

rose 2p to 360p, Shell 4p to 414p and Ultramar jumped 12p to 372p. But Lasmo eased 3p to 659p and Weeks Petroleum fell 10p to 400p after results. Acas fell 4p to 446p and New Court 1p to 65p but Attoclark rose 8p to 330p, and Carless, Capel 8p to 154p.

Press comment boosted Marchwiel, 2p to 88p, and Laurence Scott rose 3p to 70p on hopes of a counter-bid to the Mining Supplies offer.

Bid speculation pushed United Carriers up 5p to 168p and Flight Refining was a

feature, rising 20p to 272p, on reports of good orders taken at the Farnborough Air Show.

Further consideration of the

closures at Thomas Borthwick

left the shares 5p easier at 36p.

RTZ rose 5p to 455p.

Now feeling more confident

that BTR, which still holds 25.2

per cent of the shares, will not

return for a second attempt at

Bestobell has raised the

dividend by 14 per cent to 15p

to 27p on the news.

Mr A. B. (Sandy) Marshall,

the chairman, says that the

profit improvement came largely from the aviation and

steel, and control and instru-

mentation groups in the United

Kingdom and from African

companies. The African contribu-

tions now include Bestobell's two

operations in Zimbabwe, increased the percentage of trading profit from

overseas and Europe to the

group from 18 per cent to 42

per cent.

After a £155,000 exchange loss

and a £156,000 extraordinary

credit below the line profits

were up by 88 per cent to

£2.8m.

Local Authority Bonds: Inter-

estate on this week's issue of local

authority bonds was 144

per cent, up 100 basis points

in 12 months.

Browne and Co.: Internationa

Lumber Corporation has acquired

195,500 ordinary shares making

them 1.15 per cent holding, 51.74

basis points.

P. & G. Wrightson and Sons (Associated

Companies): Mr Keith Wrightson

chairman, says that current trading conditions do not lead him to believe that the current year will show any dramatic improvement in the result.

Allied International Designers

Group: Pre-tax profits of 37 per

cent to £55,000 for six months to

April 30. Dividend passed.

Cost-cutting moves help Bestobell to advance

By Philip Robinson

Mr. Director of engineering, merchandising and insulation group Bestobell is now working out of smaller offices in their new headquarters in St. Neots. The former head office there was sold in July for £1.85m, which will go to reduce borrowings. Last year, these totalled £1.5m against shareholders' funds of £36.6m.

The sale was part of Bestobell's cost-cutting exercise which started last year and has involved cuts in the workforce in some areas, but for the six months to the end of June the company has reduced its full bid to £1.5m. This is prepared to finance the costs of increasing the share capital by 63 per cent from £1.00m to more than £1.6m.

Now, feeling more confident that BTR, which still holds 25.2 per cent of the shares, will not return for a second attempt at

Bestobell has raised the dividend by 14 per cent to 15p on the news.

The five per cent increase from Bestobell was not based on a realistic price. After the "down raid" when Starwest increased its stakes to 29.9 per cent (2.52m shares), at 85p a cost of £2.2m, Gough Cooper retaliated by reviving its major properties.

This produced a £3.3m surplus and pushed up the net asset value of a share from 166p to 215p.

This is central to the defence adopted by Gough Cooper's

advisors, Bill Samuel, and his

company has strongly advised shareholders to "sit tight".

The share price reacted by

rising from 102.5p to 125p yesterday, indicating the market is continuing a "higher offer".

Hampton and Hastings, all direc-

tories, are performing well. It is

not expected that demand will be

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Rhone Poulenc faces 32pc fall

Rhone-Poulenc, the French chemical and fibres group, yesterday predicted the group's net profit for the first half of this year at about 300m francs (£30m), or a 32 per cent decline from the 443m recorded in 1979.

The forecast takes into account a loss of 410m francs in its textile division compared with a loss of 210m a year ago, and includes capital gains of 258m francs compared with 77m in 1979.

The company said it was not possible to assess precisely the impact of the sale of its controlling interest in Naphthacimic on the results. The sale will reduce the group's financial charges this year by at least 200m francs, and the capital gains will appear in the second quarter.

The outlook remains good for mineral chemicals, fertilizers, health and agro-chemicals. On the other hand, prospects are "moderate" in France for organic chemicals and uncertain for chemical textile fibres.

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Stores' deal with liquidator

In an effort to repay its suppliers in full, Korvettes, the New York-based stores group, says it will sell its stores merchandise to a liquidating lender called Korvettes' loans and seized about \$6m in bank deposits.

Under threat of bankruptcy proceedings, Mr Rita was recalled and negotiated a new restructuring plan. Agache-Willot finally made its first payment to the lender last week as a first step toward forgiveness of about \$27m of Korvettes' \$55m indebtedness.

After the sale, Korvettes stores will continue to operate as usual, with Korvettes' employees. The arrangement may continue through the Christmas selling season.

Korvettes has experienced a turbulent month. On August 7, M Jean-Pierre Willot, chairman of Agache-Willot, rejected

a restructuring plan for Korvettes' debt. This caused the resignation of Mr Joseph Ris, the chairman, who had negotiated the plan. The next day Korvettes' institutional lenders called Korvettes' loans and seized about \$6m in bank deposits.

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Sterling bond for Jusco

The Japanese supermarket chain Jusco is raising £10m through an 8 per cent sterling bond due in 1996, convertible into yen shares, London bond market sources said yesterday.

The issue will be placed in the UK by stockbrokers Rowes and Pitman and Vickers da

HINE connoisseurs COGNAC

Market surges ahead

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Sept. 1. Dealings End, Sept. 12. Contango Day, Sept. 15. Settlement Day, Sept. 12
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

PERSONAL CHOICE

Holm and Angela Down: *We the Accused* (BBC 2, 9.25)

In Pilger allows himself just one smile in Cambodia—One (ITV, 9.00), and that is when he puts the well-wounded of a little lad who, a year ago, was starving to death. His sounds personally grateful for the millions of pounds of international aid which poured in after the screening of first film on Cambodia: Year Zero. But then we're back with yesterday's grime-laden Mr Pilger as he depicts Cambodia's oil flight as a pawn in the Sino-Soviet power struggle. This exceptional piece of committed reporting must admit to being only moderately interested in what has ended to Brian Pooch since his early success with *The Beloved*, but I will nevertheless tune in to *Where Are They?* (BBC 1, 7.10) because I care very much what has ended to Fay Wray, the young actress who screamed a great in King Kong a decade ago. In marked contrast, the other lady's contribution to the night brought up to date tonight by a d'Acosta review, and all her public life was once the girl on BBC Television's test card.

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the BBC deals liberally with the opening skirmishes at the Party Assembly: three live transmissions on BBC 2 at 11.25 and 14.5, with timed highlights in Newsnight at Independent television much more frugal: one hour of transmission at 11.15. Whether the quality of debate will show BBC's generosity to have been misplaced, remains to be seen.

the Prokes in their final week, the "hopes" are much in

one. Tonight (Radio 3, 7.30) it's the Beethoven Pastoral and Janssenjohn Violin Concerto (soloist: Ralph Holmes).

tonight, it's the good old Planets. Friday night, it's the old Choral... Other recommended music-making today: with German Radio SO, under Marriner, playing the Mozart Concerto No. 19 (soloist: Brendel), on Radio 3 at 12.00, and Bruckner Symphony No. 4 at 1.05... As for Flemming Weis'sade (with honourable intentions), to be played by the Wind Quintet (Radio 3, 11.05), it ought to be worth trying to if only because the bracket makes it sound so very static.

THE SYMBOLS MEAN: STEREO: BLACK AND WHITE; SPEAK

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davallé

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: A fish in the tank: 7.05 Complex development: Closedown at 7.25. 12.45 pm News and weather forecast.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Today's guests include comedian Harry Worth and Gilbert O'Sullivan, the author and songwriter.

1.45 Show You Do: Rhymes and punning with John Hickson's illustrations. Closedown at 2.00.

3.55 Play School: Today's story: Mouse Trouble, told by Sarah Long and Ben Bassell. 4.20 Hong Kong Phoebe: Two cartoons: Cat, Jives and Zoo Story (r). 4.45 Think of a Number: Johnny Clegg teaches for young people to understand science, technology and numbers. Today the topic is wheels. 5.00 John Craven's Newswatch: Junior news. 5.25 Angels Rippon Reporting: Miss Rippon investigates the world of spiritualism and astrology and goes to an allegedly haunted house in Amityville.

10.15 The Middleweight Championship of Europe: Live coverage of Kevin Francis' defeat of his titleholder, Martino Salvemini of Italy. From San Remo, with commentary by Harry Carpenter.

11.05 Medical Express: Items on a new type of deaf aid, a new device for diabetes sufferers, and a report on the Hakims who practice traditional Asian medicine in Britain.

11.35 News headlines.

BBC 1 VARIETY: BBC Cymru Wales: 5.55-6.20 am *Yn Lloedd Yn Lloedd*. 7.15-7.25 pm *Yn Lloedd Yn Lloedd*. 8.00 pm *Cwmllawer*. 8.30 pm *Yn Lloedd Yn Lloedd*. 9.00 pm *Yn Lloedd Yn Lloedd*.

10.30 Daily Service.

11.45 I Am David (6).

12.00 News.

11.45 Robin Ray (t).

12.00 News.

12.27 The 27-Year Itch (t).

12.35 Weather.

1.00 The World at One.

1.40 The Archers.

2.00 News.

2.02 Woman's Hour.

3.01 Listen With Mother.

3.15 Play: Plan, by Stephen Swarles.

4.00 Choral Evensong (t).

4.45 Story: Treasures of Provence, by T. V. Newark.

5.00 News.

5.30 Weather.

6.30 The Year in Question.

7.00 News.

7.05 The Archers.

7.45 Person to Person: Interview with Vladimir Bokousky.

8.45 File on 4.

9.30 Kaleidoscope.

10.00 The World Tonight.

11.00 Story: Sale, by Anita Desai.

11.30 Factual World Tonight.

12.00 News.

12.15 am-1.23 Weather.

VHF

6.00 am-7.00 Open University:

Maths—Normed Spaces; Architecture and Design; Modern Euro-

pean Drama.

6.20 pm-7.00 Open University:

Laughter; French Architectural Theory; Making Sense of Society.

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: A fish in the tank: 7.05 Complex development: Closedown at 7.25.

9.00 Chamber: Topics of interest to amateur viewers. Closedown at 9.25.

10.15 Liberal Party Assembly: Robin Day and David Dimbleby report from Blackpool on the opening day of the party's annual conference. Includes further coverage at 11.25 and at 1.45 with a round-up in tonight's edition of Newsnight (10.45). (See Personal Choice.)

11.25 Liberal Party Assembly: Back to the debates at Blackpool.

12.00 pm-1.00 pm: Liberal Party Assembly: More news from the side town with the famous tower.

4.00 pm Open University: Antibody diversity immunoregulation: 5.15 Fast reactor fuel reprocessing: 5.45 Cuba, the revolutionary alter-native: 6.30 A golden age of innocence: 7.00 The Accused: Part one for a legendary copper mountain.

8.30 Oh Happy Band! Harry Worth in a comedy series about a town brass band. Tonight: The Tremolo pop group. (See Personal Choice.)

7.45 Golden Seal: Final episode of this Australian drama series on 7.25. Closedown at 8.00 pm.

8.00 News with John Edmunds.

8.25 Angels Rippon Reporting: Miss Rippon investigates the world of spirituality and astrology and goes to an allegedly haunted house in Amityville.

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11.35 News headlines.

set in wartime Korea. Hawkeye takes matters into his own hands when the Pygmies begin to attack him.

8.30 His master comes even more apart at the seams.

9.25 The Accused: Part one of Julia Jones' adaptation of Ernest Raymond's novel about the tragic career of an ex-schoolmaster and a lonely, shy colleague. This murder story is set in the Thirties. Starring Ian Holm, Elizabeth Spriggs and Angela Lansbury. (See Personal Choice.)

10.30 Top Crown: The BBC 2 sports tournament. Second leg: Badminton: final, from Blackpool. Next, rows and Michael Lewis versus Roy Nicholson and Arthur Murray. It's the final next week.

8.10 But Still We Sing: How the choir, which has adapted itself to the varying circumstances in different islands in the Outer Hebrides. This film won the Silver Harp at this year's Golden Horse Festival in Dublin.

10.45 Newsnight: News and comment, including a report on today's proceedings at the liberal conference in Blackpool. Ends at approximately 11.45.

THAMES

9.30 am Rocket Robin Hood: A cartoon. The Aviary Truce.

9.50 Film: Beau Brummell (1954)

Siimpony mounted, star-packed,

but stiffly told story about the Regency trend-setter. Starring Stewart Granger, with Elizabeth Taylor, Peter Ustinov (as the Prince Regent), Robert Morley (George III), James Donald, Rosemary Harris.

11.30 The White Stone: Episode 5 of this 12-part serial about a girl and a stone. 11.55 The Undersea Adventures of Captain Nemo: Cartoon, after Verne (r).

12.00 The Adventures of Rupert Bear: Rupert and the Experiment: a puppet story for children.

12.30 Bedtime Stories: Children's programme.

1.30 About Britain: The Race—a Mountain Romance. The annual race up, up, down, Snowdon.

1.45 Crown Court: The jury

returns its verdict in the case of the woman accused of defrauding her firm of £100,000. With Barbara Kellermann (r).

2.00 Mid-Week Racing: Three races from Doncaster, the 2.00, 2.30 and 2.55 pm.

3.15 The Liberal Party Assembly: Gordon Burns introduces this live coverage of the Blackpool debate. (See Personal Choice.)

4.15 The Whisper of Glocks: John Nettleton's first film.

4.45 How? Questions to answers about the wonders of living. With Jack Hargreaves. 4.45 The Best of Marc: Pop music show (r).

5.15 Tell My Wife: Comedy

about a struggling comedian. With Duggie Brown (r).

5.45 News: 6.00 Thames news. 6.25 Help! How crèches can help women to take up adult education courses without worrying about what is happening to their small children.

6.35 Crossroads: Metal serial. 7.00 Hart of the Yard: Light-hearted crime series, with Ron Moody as Chief Inspector Vic. 7.30 Coronation Street: The wed-

ding of Emily Bishop and Arnold Swain.

8.00 The Morecambe and Wise Show: Barbara Windsor sings a song with the two funny men, and Hughie Green plays an odd poet.

8.30 Cowper: Poems by John Cowper Powys.

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BE NOT RASH with thy mouth, and
do not think before thy hasty
utterance is broken before thou
shewest whereof in thy words
be not—Exodus 10:2.

BIRTHS

ANDREW ... On 2nd August, in
Hempton, to Ronne and Marisol

CLIFFORD ... On 2nd August, to
Caroline (nee Abuabufa), sister
for Muslim.

FOOTMAN ... On 1st September, to
John and Linda, daughter of
Caroline (nee Murphy).

DEATHS

BROWN ... On 2nd August,

in his 80th year, of a long and
wonderful life, Mr. John Brown

MARSHALL ... On 23rd August,

William Marshall, of 4 Heygate

Lawn, Chigwell Road, NW3, died

MURPHY ... On 2nd September, to
June (nee Ridder), widow of

John (late) Murphy, sister

and brother of Michael, Rupert

and Peter.

PHILIPS ... On 2nd September,

John Philip, of Chiswick,

son of Timothy (late) Robert

Piers, a former Member of

Parliament.

POPE ... On 2nd September, to

Hope (nee Astbury), John

and Kenneth, of 40 Grosvenor

Ridge, London W1, son of

John (late) Pope, a former

Member of Parliament.

ROBERTSON ... On 2nd September,

John Robertson, of 10 Grosvenor

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